

JUL - 8 1997

# Before The FEDERAL COMMANICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	)
Review of the Commission's Regulations Governing Television Broadcasting	) MM Docket No. 91-221
Television Satellite Stations Review of Policy and Rules	) MM Docket No. 87-8
Review of the Commission's Regulations Governing Attribution of Broadcast and Cable/MDS Interests	) MM Docket No. 94-150 ) )
Review of the Commission's Regulations and Policies Affecting Investment in the Broadcast industry	MM Docket No. 92-51
Reexamination of the Commission's Cross-Interest Policy	) MM Docket No. 87-154 )

To: The Commission

# JOINT SUBMISSION OF CENTRAL NY NEWS, INC., AND UTICA TELEVISION PARTNERS, L.L.C. OF CERTAIN FACTUAL INFORMATION REGARDING TELEVISION LMAS

James L. Winston
Steven J. Stone
James P. Schulz
Rubin, Winston, Diercks, Harris
& Cooke, L.L.P.
1333 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Suite 1000
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 861-0870

Thomas J. Hutton Dow Lohnes & Albertson, P.L.L.C. 1200 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W. Suite 800 Washington, D.C. 20036-6802 (202) 776-2738

Attorneys for Utica Television Partners, L.L.C.

Attorneys for Central NY News, Inc.

July 8, 1997

No of Copies recid

# Before The Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	
Review of the Commission's Regulations Governing Television Broadcasting	MM Docket No. 91-221
Television Satellite Stations Review of Policy and Rules	MM Docket No. 87-8
Review of the Commission's Regulations Governing Attribution of Broadcast and Cable/MDS Interests	MM Docket No. 94-150
Review of the Commission's Regulations and Policies Affecting Investment in the Broadcast industry	MM Docket No. 92-51
Reexamination of the Commission's Cross-Interest Policy	MM Docket No. 87-154

To: The Commission

# JOINT SUBMISSION OF CENTRAL NY NEWS, INC., AND UTICA TELEVISION PARTNERS, L.L.C. OF CERTAIN FACTUAL INFORMATION REGARDING TELEVISION LMAs

Central NY News, Inc. ("CNY News"), and Utica Television Partners, L.L.C. ("Utica") by their attorneys, hereby submit the information regarding television Local Marketing Agreements ("LMAs") requested by the Commission. CNY News has recently entered into an LMA with Utica, licensee of WUTR(TV), Channel 20, Utica, New York (the "Utica LMA").

CNY News and Utica are pleased to support, by this submission, the Commission's efforts in gathering factual information concerning LMAs before making a decision that will have a broad impact on many stations' continued service to the public through these important agreements. Utica and CNY News urge the Commission to continue to permit LMAs, or, at a minimum, to grandfather

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Commission Seeks Further Information Regarding Television LMAs, Public Notice, DA 97-1246, released June 17, 1997.

all existing LMAs permanently, and to permit the renewal and transfer of grandfathered LMAs.

#### 1(a): The Brokering Station

Name of Licensee:

WIXT TV, Inc.<sup>2</sup>

Call Letters:

WIXT(TV)

Channel Number:

Channel 9

Community of License:

Syracuse, New York

### 1(b): The Brokered Station

Name of Licensee:

Utica Television Partners, L.L.C.

Call Letters:

WUTR(TV)

Channel Number:

Channel 20

Community of License:

Utica, New York

### 2. Designated Market Area ("DMA")

WIXT(TV) is located in the Syracuse DMA, which is ranked 68.

WUTR(TV) is located in the Utica DMA, which is ranked 166.

## 3. Overlapping Signal Contours

The brokering and brokered stations have overlapping City Grade, Grade A and Grade B signal contours.

4. Date on which the Parties entered into the LMA: June 30, 1997.

### 5. Specific information regarding the term of the LMA

Start date: June 30, 1997.

End date: The earlier of June 30, 2005 or the date on which the Commission modifies its current duopoly rule in a manner which would permit CNY News to purchase WUTR(TV), in which event CNY News would be required to purchase WUTR(TV) pursuant to an option agreement.

Renewal: The LMA contains no renewal provision.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> WIXT TV, Inc., is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Ackerley Group, Inc. ("Ackerley"). Ackerley also wholly-owns CNY News.

# 6. Percentage of the brokered station's weekly broadcast hours brokered to the brokering station: 99.4%

### 7. Network ownership of, or affiliation with, brokered or brokering station

Both stations are ABC affiliates.

### 8. All-day Audience share during last three rating periods (9 AM to Midnight)

Period	WUTR	WIXT
May, 1997	13.3	18.2
February, 1997	12.2	18
November, 1996	10.9	19.2

#### 9. Other information

Upstate New York markets are depressed. This makes it difficult for television stations to provide quality local news programming and remain competitive. This economic climate does not encourage investment in local news. It is in this area that the Utica LMA will soon provide demonstrable benefits to the Utica community. Anticipated cost savings from the LMA will enable CNY News to double WUTR's local morning news programming from fifteen minutes to a full half-hour. This increase in local news programming demonstrates that agreements such as the Utica LMA serve the public interest. CNY News and Utica urge the Commission to continue to permit LMAs, or, at a minimum, to grandfather LMAs permanently, and to permit the renewal and transfer of grandfathered LMAs.

# Respectfully submitted,

James L. Winston
Steven J. Stone
James P. Schulz
Rubin, Winston, Diercks, Harris
& Cooke, L.L.P.
1333 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Suite 1000
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 861-0870

Attorneys for Central NY News, Inc.

Thomas J. Hutton

Dow Lohnes & Albertson, P.L.L.C. 1200 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.

Suite 800

Washington, D.C. 20036-6802

(202) 776-2738

Attorneys for Utica Television Partners, L.L.C.

July 8, 1997